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# A SURVEY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH CHINA

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# ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

The Central and South China region consists of six provinces and two municipalities directly subordinate to this region. The provinces are Honan, Hupei, Hunan, Kiangsi, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi; the two municipalities are Hankow and Canton. The entire area comprises 1,145,940.95 square kilometers, representing 11.94 percent of China, or an area two times the size of France. Chinese living in this area number 140 million, or 30.3 percent of the entire Chinese population.

The area is very rich in natural resources, especially in tungsten and antimony. The reserves and production of these two metals occupy not only a significant position in the total resources and production of China, but also a most important place in world production. The proportion of nonferrous metals produced in this area of total production of such metals in China is as follows: tungsten, 99.7 percent; antimony, 82 percent; manganese, 70.5 percent; and zinc, 48 percent.

In addition to the four metals mentioned above; urantum chase been idiscovered in this area in Kwangsi Province. It is possible that the ores from tungsten and antimony mines in Kiangsi and Hunan provinces may also yield uranium. The hydroelectric power potential is estimated at 29 percent of the total potential of China. Raw materials for the development of such light industries as weaving, oil pressing, and paper, flour, and cigarette manufacture are adequate. There are also considerable reserves of coal and iron ore, although the exploitation of such reserves is by manual methods as a rule. Other special products of the area include tea, bristles, tung oil, sugar cane, and tobacco; the output of these products is a significant percentage of the total Chinese output.

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Modern light and heavy machine building, public and private, in the machine-building industry. The combined production of Honan and Kiangsi provinces in this field amounts to less than one percent of the total. The figure indicates the insignificance of heavy industry in this area.

Industry and agriculture were either destroyed or suspended during the resistance against the Japanese, during the period of control by the Kuomintang regime, and during the civil wars which followed the end of World War II. As result of the destruction by both the Japanese and the Kuomintang regimes, production in agriculture and industry dropped 30 and 40 percent, respectively. Honan Province and the Hankow area should be considered exceptions. In Honan, 46 percent of the production activities have been revived in the municipalities of Cheng-chou (1) /numbers in parentheses refer to appended characters / K'ai-feng (2), Lo-ho (3), Chu-chi (4), and Chou-k'ou (5). In the Hankow area, resumption of business activities is visible because of the early liberation of the area. Other cities and towns are now in process of reconstruction, with the restoration of production activities as the prime objective.

The heavy industry base in the Central and South China region is very weak in comparison with North China and Manchuria. It is even inferior in many respects to that of East China. Two points should be noted, however. First, the Central and South China region is rich in nonferrous metals essential for the production of iron, steel, machinery, and electrical equipment; their exploitation, however, is by primitive means. Second, the heavy industry of the area is very small in scale. Heavy industry here was colonial in nature, and it suffered severely during the Japanese invasion, under the Japanese pupast troops, and in the hands of the Kuomintang regiment. Manyaplants are still in the regonant stage. Such reconstruction is indevidence at other Central Chinae Iron and Steel Blant: the Balangitian (6) Electrical Equipment Manufacturing Plant, the Canton Steel Plant; and at some coal mines.

#### II. ECONOMIC PLANNING

This year, reconstruction emphasis in this region is on the restoration of production activities. At the same time, some new construction may be feasible. One of the first things to be accomplished this year is the completion of land reform and redistribution. This should be finished by autumn 1950 or spring 1951.

In carrying out the land reform, concurrent efforts are being made to restore agricultural activities. A combined plan for collectivization of agriculture and for increasing special agricultural crops such as cotton, tea, peanuts, tung oil, flax, tobacco, and other minor products such as fish and salt, will be carried out in due time. Under the general direction of the Central government this region will devote itself to certain enterprises required by prevailing circumstances.

However, in resuming production activities, the main emphasis will be placed on light industry. Weaving, oil pressing, flour-mill construction, paper, sugar carr, cigarette, pottery and porcelain manufacture, and hide and leather production, as well as related industries, will receive special attention. As far as heavy industry in this region is concerned, practically all enterprises except coal mining and machine building are nationalized.

"The Tasks and Mission of the Central and South China Region for 1950" was modified and approved at the 23d meeting of the Government Administration Council. In the plan, the Government Administration Council ruled that certain specific points should be kept in mind in launching production activities. The

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first thing to be accomplished is the Central and South China region's fulfillment of its obligations in the production of nonferrous metals, iron, and steel all of which are in demand by the Central government. Production activities should be restored in important nationalized enterprises on the basis of existing conditions, and some coal mines should be restored. In keeping with national needs and requirements, equipment of power plants should be expanded. The important thing to keep in mind is that light industry must support heavy industry. Light industry should be managed so it can maintain its capital, support itself, and make a profit. Only if capital is accumulated in this field will heavy industry gradually be developed.

The first Industrial Conference of the Central and South China region was held under the direction of the Department of Heavy Industry of the Military and Administrative Committee of this region. The agenda of proposals was as follows:

- 1. Management should be organized on an enterprise basis.
- 2. Administration should be democratic.
- Reconstruction and recrganization should be carried out in old enterprises.
- 4. Fulfillment of production goals should be assured.

The conference lasted from 3 to 19 April 1950. Those present at the conference included: administrative officers of the enterprises and mines under the jurisdiction of the Department of Heavy Industry of the Military and Administrative Committee; trade union leaders; Workers' representatives; and members of the Chinese Communist Party.

On the second day of the conference, Chu Yi (7), director of the Department of Heavy Industry of the Military and Administrative Committee, reported on objectives and plans for production activities in 1950. Chu declared that the plan was drafted under the general direction of the Central government and the Military and Administrative Committee in 1950. All plans made by the Department of Heavy Industry have been modified and approved by the Central government, except the plan for the machine tool industry, which has not yet reached its final stage.

Chu added that the heavy industry base in this region was weak to begin with, and that it was further weakened under the Japanese and Kuomintang regimes. Consequently, the administration encountered many difficulties when the existing industries were taken over and reconstruction begun. In view of national financial pressures, Chu said he felt it was impossible to do everything at financial pressures, Chu said he felt it was impossible to do everything at once. The main thing, in Chu's opinion, is to push forward step by step by whatever means possible. On the one hand, the future development of heavy industry is to be taken into considerate the state of the plan comprises the following two points:

1. The general direction of production and reconstruction to be observed in this region is based on present circumstances prevailing in heavy industry. Since national needs and requirements must be met, reconstruction and development will be conducted along specific lines. In other words, the demands of the Central government for nonferrous metals (tungsten, antimony, zinc, tin, manganese), as well as for iron and steel, should be satisfied. Coal mines are to be restored to their full productive capacity only at specific points. Secondly, reconstruction will take place in power plants, shipoulding enterprises, and in enterprises producing refractory materials.

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Thirdly, reorganization and retooling will be started in nationalized and provincially managed plants producing electrical machinery, military engineering enterprises, cement and other plants so that they may be encouraged to continue their production.

2. The line to be observed in regard to control is that management should be organized on an enterprise basis.

Gradually, estimates and checks on economic activities will be started. An organization called the Enterprise Administration Committee will be formally established to reorganize the old administration organizations, create new systems, take stock of old materials, eliminate waste, promote thrift, raise efficiency, and reduce production costs.

## III. HEAVY INDUSTRY

A summary survey of heavy industry in the Central and South China region, with data in some cases incomplete, follows.

## A. Nonferrous Metals

### Manganese

Reserves amount to more than 3 million tons. These reserves for the most part are in the Central and South China region, particularly in Kwangtung Province. Locations of manganese ore deposits are as follows:

- a. Ch'in (8) Hsien fin southwestern Kwang ung Province
- b. Lo-p'ing (9) Hsien /northeast by east of Nan-chang, Kiangsi Province/
  - c. Hsiang-tian /directly south of Chiang-sha7, Human Province
  - d. Ch'ang-ning (10) [south of Hsiang-t'an in Hunan Province]
- e. Wu-hsuan (11) /southwest by south of Kuei-ling (12), Kwangsi Province/
  - f. Kuei-p'ing (13) /southeast of Wu-hsuan in Kwangsi Province/

Manganese production in 1937 amounted to 80,000 tons. This year (1950) emphasis is being placed on the operation of mines in Kuei-p'ing and Hsiang-t'an, according to the directions from the Central government on the exploitation of nonferrous metals. Simultaneously, extensive prospecting of the mining area i 'n progres; so that future exploitation plans may be drafted on a practical basis. Since April 1950, crude ores have been taken from mines in Lo-ping and Hsiang-t'an.

# 2. Litera and Zinc

In China, lead and zinc often occur together in deposits. The Shui-k'ou-shan (14) mine in the Ch'ang-ning district of Hunan Province is one of the important mining areas. There, modern methods have been used in drilling and opening mines. Ores contain from 30 to 70 percent lead, from 10 to 50 percent zinc, and small amounts of silver. The Shui-k'ou-shan mine produced 60,000 tons of crude ore in 1937. The peak in lead ore mining was in 1936;

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when 5,735 tons were extracted. Zinc ore extracted in 1936 amounted to 11,748 tons. The ores were sent to concentrating installations. In 1942 the production of pure lead was 1,047 tons; pure zinc production was 196 tons.

The zinc-smelting installation at Ch'ang-sha before liberation was able to produce 40 tons per month. After liberation, 120 employees and workers worked feverishly for 2 months. Finally, on 15 December 1949, the installation was again rut into operation. Production is still on a still satisfy buttitis. noteworthy because China has rarely used new and modern methods in smelting zinc ore. The installation now has one open-hearth furnace. Heaver, the still stil

The main emphasis in the present plan is on remodeling existing installations, opening new mines, and concentrating the ores. At the same time, prospecting and drilling are proceeding at a feverish pace. Water is being pumped from old mines as new strikes are made. On the whole, the Hunan smelter has increased the capacity of its open-hearth furnace and has concentrated its ore reserves.

#### 3. Tin

The tin reserves in the entire country amount to roughly 650,000 tons. The largest deposit is in the Ko-chiu (15) district of Yunnan Province. This deposit represents half of all the reserves. The Central and South China region has the other half of the reserves. The largest part is in Kiangsi Province

The entire mining zone is distributed in the tungsten mining belt in the Ta-yu (16) district in southern Kiangsi Province. The tin districts are as follows:

- a. Fu-/chuan (17) Hsien, in western Kwangsi/
- b. Ho Hsien (18), iin western Kwangsi7
- c. Chung-Ehan (19) Haien, in western Kwangai
- d. Kiang-hua (20), in Hunan Province
- e. Nan-hsiung (21), in \_northern7 Kwangtung Province
- f. Sze-hsing (22), /in northern Kwangtung Province/
- g. Tien-pai (23), \_northwest of Hainan Island on the South China Sea

In connection with tin mining in Kiangsi Province, there is an enterprise called the Kiangsi People's Tin and Tungsten Exploitation Company. Under it there are five operating offices conducting prospecting and exploitation. Their work is to open mines by new and modern methods and to buy ores mined by the local inhabitants.

In Kwangsi Province, the P'ing-kuei Mine Administration is in charge of mining affairs related to the mines in the Fu-chuen, Chung-shan, and Ho Hsien districts. The administration has the equipment necessary for opening new mines. It also has a concentrating installation. The concentrated tin surpasses the standard of that produced in America. In foreign markets, this

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concentrated tin has earned a special reputation for China The Pling-kuei Tin Concentrating Plant, the coal mine, electric power plant, the steel mill, and more than 3,000 workers and employees have now been brought completely under the control of the People's government without suffering any losses.

#### 4. Tungsten

Tungsten reserves of the entire country amount to roughly 2 million tons. The deposit is considered the foremost in the world. The mining of ore amounts to 70 percent of the ore mined in the world. Most of the deposit is in the Central and South China region. Kiangsi Province alone boasts 70 percent of the production, with 1.6 million tons in reserves.

In Kwangtung Province the deposit contains 300,000 tons. There is some tungsten in both Hunan and Kwangsi provinces. However, of the 17 districts comprising the tungsten mining belt, the Hsi-hua-shan (24) mine is the largest of all. In 1945, the National Resources Committee of the Kuomintang regime, in cooperation with the Kiangsi Provincial government, organized the Kiangsi Tungsten and Tin Company. Under it were five departments. In Kiangsi, district offices were established which were in charge of the mines and were responsible for buying and collecting tungsten and tin ores. In 1947, the National Resources Committee used southern Kiangsi and northern Kwangtung as centers for the resumption of production. As a result of these efforts, annual production reached 5,000 tons.

After the liberation of Kiangsi Province, the provincial government took over the company and the engineering departments without losses.

A fair price has been set so that tungsten ores may be bought from the people in the interest of national defense. At the same time, the provincial government declares that tungsten ores are to be bought only by the government. No smuggling and public selling is allowed. Mining of this metal will be expanded to fulfill the norm established by the Central government.

### 5. Antimony

This metal is an important export. The deposit in China is the foremost in the world. The country's reserves amount to 3.8 million tons. The Central and South China region has 3.2 million tons. The largest portion is in Hunan Province. The following are the chief antimony mining districts: Heinchus (25), Hunan; Yuan-ling (26), Hunan; Shao-yang (27), Hunan; Ch'u-kiang (28), Kwangtung; Ju-yuan (29), Kwangtung; Nan-tan (30), Kwangsi; and Ho-chi (31), Kwangsi. Mining during the first quarter of 1950 was 104 percent of the original plan.

Ch'ang-sha has the only antimony-refining installation. Since the liberation of Ch'ang-sha, mining has increased daily. Antimony ore mining increased from 6 tons per day in July 1949 to 57.9 tons daily in October 1949. Output of pure antimony increased in the same period from 6 tons to 31.2 tons. The antimony installation is now producing alloys, as well as pure antimony.

#### B. Iron and Steel

According to the book Shih-nien-lai Chung-kuo Chih Ching-chi (Ten Years of Chinese Economy), iron-ore reserves in the Central and South China region amount to 400 million tons. Kwangtung Province stands first, Hupei Province second, and Hunan Province third. The iron ore deposit at Shih-lu (32) on Hainan Island contains 200 million tons. A 30-million-ton iron ore deposit is located at Ta-yeh (33) in Hupei Province. All of the ore in this zone contains more than 50 percent iron. However, the iron and steel industry in this zone cannot be compared with that in North China and Manchuria. The Han-yang

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Steel Plant is now a heap of rubble. It was first torn down by the Knomintang regime, and again destroyed by the Japanese. At present, the Central China Iron and Steel Plant at Ta-yeh and the Canton Steel Plant are under construction. Some small-scale iron plants were either destroyed by the Japanese when they started the Hunan push, or were forced to cease operating under the Knomintang regime. Iron production in the Hankow area (the center is at Ta-yeh) can reach 110,000 tons of ore and, when operating at capacity, 14,000 tons of dressed iron ore.

Conditions at the Central China Iron and Schel Company, as they are known to the author, are as follows: The plant is the most important in the Central and South China region. The site is at Ta-yeh. There are more than 1,600 workers and employees. It is still under construction. The plant consists of the smelter, steel plant, steel-rolling plant, and mining department. Machinery was received from Chungking, Shanghai, Tsingtao, Anshan, and the US. It was originally planned that this ironworks would be a modern plant capable of producing 100,000 - 500,000 tons of iron and steel. But under the antipopular policy, the plan was just talk. After the liberation, a Bessemer converter was put into operation. The installation of a 30-ton furnace has also been completed. The initial work of resuming production has been completed. Before the liberation, only a 1.5 ton Bessemer converter was in operation. At present there are 12 furnaces in operation and another under construction. A new electric furnace and blast furnace are already on has. A 10-inch ore-crushing machine is already operating. The molding shop is producing iron wheels. The oxygen shop has completed an oxygen-producing machine. A one-ton and a 5-ton molding machine are now manufacturing items for plants in the area.

The Canton Steel Plant was established in January 1949 by combining three plants in the city: a chemical, a fertilizer, and a sulfuric acid plant. The plant equipment consists of machinery removed from Manchuria, North China, and Central China by the Nationalists, machinery sent by Japan as reparations, and some by ECA. The plant is divided into two deparaments: the smelting and refinery department (which is further divided into foundry and steel refinery), and the machine department (containing molding, cold-working, and heat-treatment shops) Antimony can also be refined in this plant. With the exception of one blast furnace and one electric furnace which went into operation last May, this plant is still in the construction stage. The work has now almost been completed. The plant has over 200 workers and can produce 100 tons of iron and 300 tons of steel per month.

In this region, besides the Central China and Canton plants, there is a steel mill at Ping-kuei (34) which has a 5-ton blast furnace. The Kiangsi Steel Plant was destroyed by the Japanese during the war and has not yet been restored. Recently, the People's government of Kiangsi Province established the T'ien-ho (35) Coke and Steel Plant, which has a 20-ton blast furnace. Production will begin on 1 May.

In the Central and South China region, steel is to be produced this year in accordance with the needs of the Central government. For the time being, construction on the Canton Steel Plant will continue, while the plant maintains its present volume of production. As for the Central China Iron and Steel Plant, it has been decided that blast furnaces should be added; by using the electric furnace and the available compressor equipment the plant will produce as much as possible to meet the pressing needs of the region.

## C. Coal

Total coal reserves in this region are estimated at 700 million tons, with Hunan Province occupying first place and Honan second. The important mines are the I-lo (36) mine in Honan, the P'ing-hsiang (37) mine in Kiengsi Province, and the Hsiang-kiang (38) mine in Hunan Province. Since the liberation, almost all the coal mines have been restored to operation; in many cases,

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production has been increased. However, on the whole, annual output is insufficient to meet the region's needs and the deficiency has to be made up by importing coal from Manchuria and North China. The mine at P'ing-hsiang has regained its normal daily output of 500 tons, but is still far behind the planned quota of 3,800 tons. In Hunan Province, the monthly coal requirement is 60,000 tons, while the output is only half that. To make up the deficiency and to be self-sufficient, the province must produce 70,000 tons this year. In Honan Province, the normal annual ouput of 50,000 tons has been restored, amounting to an increase of 49.5 percent over prewar output.

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At the All-China Conference on Coal and Mining held last year, it was decided that the Central and South China region must find ways to make the region self-sufficient. A regional conference was held last December. In accordance with instructions of the Central government, the conference set a quota of 1,560,000 tons of coal to be mined by all state-owned and privately owned mines, the goal for the former being 650,600 tons. This plan has been presented to the Central government for leview.

Later, at the Central and South China Heavy Industry Conference, Minister Chu pointed out the difficulties of mining in this region; these difficulties he attributed to low reserves, scattered mines, rough topography, and too many fissures, soft rocks, and heavy seams. Also, at the conference, plans were formulated for improving the mines in this region, with particular emphasis on the two major mines; the Pino~hsiang mine and the I-lo mine. The I-lo mine is the most promising in the whole region, having a total reserve of 220 million tons of high-quality coal. This year ways should be found to raise the production of that mine; safety, power, transportation, ventilation, and sewage systems are to be newly installed or improved. Also according to the plan, the mines at Hsiang-kiang and Chung-hsiang (39) are to be combined under one management to save men and money; so are the two mines located at Yung-shao (40) and Kwanyint'an (41). Because of a flood, the mines at Lo-p'ing and Chuhsiang (42) are temporarily closed and their workers transferred to the nearby manganese mines. Other mines, whether state-owned or privately financed, are all to be restored and improved in accordance with requirements set by the conference to raise production.

#### D. Electric Power

According to statistics compiled and published by Hsin Hua-hsueh Chi-k'an (New Scientific Quarterly) in December 1949, total electric power capacity in this region is 127,794 kilowatts, with Canton and Hankow as the chief centers. By province, the figures are as follows: Kwangtung, 49,814 kilowatts (Canton generates 34,400 kilowatts and Hainan Island 10,950 kilowatts)) Hupei, 39,500 kilowatts; Hunan, 9,024 kilowatts (the estimate made by the Hsin Hunan Jih-pao New Hunan Daily is 14,380 kilowatts); Kiangsi, 10,365 kilowatts; Kwangsi, 8,204 kilowatts; and Honan, 3,887 kilowatts. Also, according to the statistics, only 5,600 kilowatts are generated by the hydroelectric power on Hainan Island, all the rest being generated by thermoelectric power. In this region, the total hydroelectric power potential is estimated to be 1.8 million kilowatts. At I-ch'ang (43) and San-sha (44), the total potential is one million kilowatts, and the potentials of the Kan (45) and Weng (46) rivers are rather large. When the Nationalists were still in control of the area, plans were drawn up for the "development of hydroelectric power;" but except for a preliminary survey which was made at I-ch'ang and San-sha, the plans remained on paper. After the liberation, instructions were received from the Central government to develop all power potentials to supply the needs of industrialization. In the Central and South China region, the chief emphasis is on the development of hydroelectric power. Besides improving equipment of the electric plants, measures must be taken to prevent sabotage and to insure the continued supply of power needed by the plants in the region. Since the plants originally located in Shanghai and Wu-hsi (47) were moved inland to the clittles of K'ai-feng and Cheng-dhou, the problem of power supply has become serious. In K'ai-feng, the P'u-lin (48)

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Electric Power Plant has a generator of 3.000-kilowatt capacity and can barely meet the needs there. At Cheng-chou, the 2,000-kilowatt generator cannot meet the needs. Recently, a group of technicians was sent there to install another 2,000-kilowatt generator and to select locations for two more electric plants, one with a 5,000-kilowatt generator and another with 20,000 kilowatts. At Ta-yeh (49), the power plant has a 6,000 kilowatt generator. Recently, a new generator of 5,000-kilowatt capacity was bought and installed. Hence, at Ta-yeh, these generators not only can supply the needs of plants in the city but those in the surrounding area as well. In Hunan Province, electric power plants are being restored. The total electric power available now is estimated to be 7,800 kilowatts.

## E. Machine-Tool Industry

In this region, the base for machine-tool production is poor. In addition, many of the plants and repair shops were destroyed or stripped by the Japanese. Hankow, for example, before the war had 360 rlants with 2,600 machine tools. During the Japanese occupation, the number of machine tools fell to 1,500. After the war, though the number of plants increased, the number of machine tools remained the same.

In this region, the important state-owned machine-tool plants are the Wu han Shipyard and the machine tool shop of the Wu-han Iron and Steel Plant. The shippard was established last November by combining two machine-tool plants, the Hankow Shipyard, and the Hankow Naval Ordnance Plant. At present, this shippard has over 200 machine tools, and is engaged in repair and refitting of ships. Shipbuilding is secondary. Besides the two above-mentioned plants, the Central China Iron and Steel Plant has some machines which can be used to manufacture minor tools. In Ch'ang-sha, the machine-tool plant has been enlarged by over 100 machines taken from the Canton Steel Plant. It is now one of the largest plants of its kind in the region and is manufacturing tools needed by nearby mines and plants. The machine-tool plant at Yuan-i (50) has been moved to Ch'ang-sha and combined with the agricultural-machine-building plant there to become the Hunan Machine-Tool Plant. In Kwangsi Province, the machine-tool plant at Liu-chou (51), which during the war was the only plant in the region manufacturing aircraft parts and ammunition, was destroyed by the Japanese and has not yet been restored. The truck and shipbuilding plants in Kiangsi Province were also destroyed. Now they have been combined into a truck- and automobile-repair plant. As for agricultural-machine building, the plants at K'aifeng and Cheng-chou are in comparatively good condition and will be ready to manufacture farm implements soon.

Besides the plants mentioned above, there are at Canton the Huang-p'u Ship-yard and an aircraft-engine plant which was moved from Kuei-chou. The locomotive manufacturing plants at Hankow, Wu-ch'ang, and Chu-chou (52) all have considerable numbers of machine tools, but unfortunately most of them have been damaged by Nationalist reactionaries. Munitions plants are located at Hankow, Chu-chou, Ch'en-chi (53), Nan-ning, and Canton. The plant at Chu-chou is the largest.

## F. Heavy Chemical Industry

In this region, the heavy chemical industries are cement, glassmaking, and sulfuric acid manufacture. With the exception of cement, this branch of industry is very insignificant. Of the cement plants, the largest is located at Tayeh, being jointly financed and controlled by public and private concerns. It has very new equipment and is the only new plant of its kind to be established in the last 2 years. It is estimated that this plant can produce 1,000 tons of cement daily; however, due to the slack demand, it has not yet had the opportunity to demonstrate its full capacity. Since the liberation, with government subsidy, Kiln B alone has increased its monthly out from 655 tons last June to 4,000 tons this April. The cement plant at Hsi-ts'un (54) outside Canton

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produced 660 tons of cement daily before the war. During the war, it was bombed by the Japanese; during the Japanese occupation, some of the equipment was removed to North China, and other equipment damaged. After the Japanese surrender, some of the machines were repaired and put to work. One machine now produces 200 tons daily, while another is expected to turn out 70,000 tons this year. The Kiangsi Cement Plant and Ch'en-chi Plant both were damaged by the Japanese and the Nationalists. Plans are being made for their restoration. Sulfuric-acid plants are located at Wu-chou (55), Liu-chou, and Shao-yang. This year, these plants are to maintain their present volume of production. Plans for improvement have been made and presented to the Central government for review.

## G. Electrical Equipment Manufacturing

The Electrical Equipment Manufacturing Plant at Hsiang-t'an is one of the best plants of its kind in the country. It was equipped by the Nationalists with modern equipment bought abroad. At present, besides manufacturing, it is also a center for training technicians. In this plant, electric motors, generators, and transformers can be manufactured. If all the equipment now available were installed and put to full use, the plant could supply the needs not only of this region but of Manchuria and North China as well. Since the liberation, production has greatly increased. In 3 months, the total number of units produced almost equaled that of the period from July 1948 to June 1949 when the plant was under Nationalist control. In August, September, and October, the plant produced generators totaling 341 horsepower, transformers totaling 578 kilowatts, and 67 switches. The second largest plant is the Electric Battery Plant at Hankow. The equipment of this plant is quite new. Since the liberation, improvements have been made in both quantity and quality. For example, last June only 2,000 primary and 200 secondary cell batteries were made, while in December 8,000 primary and 90 [sic] secondary cell batteries were produced. In addition, 135 automobile storage batteries were made this January. Insulators are being made by the China Pottery Company in Hunan Provincome.

At the Central and South China Heavy Industry Conference, Minister Chu emphatically pointed out that the industrial development of Central and South China must be undertaken in accordance with over-all industrial planning for the country. If industrial development in this region cannot accomplish its assigned task, then it would affect national planning profoundly and impede the progress of enterprises not could in this region but in others. Therefore, it is essential that everyone concerned should earnestly shoulder his responsibilities and strive for progress in heavy industry in his own region.

This year, the assignment given to Central and South China, comparatively speaking, is not heavy. But in view of the difficult conditions prevailing, the task will be rather difficult. In this region, the industrial foundation is weak, and the equipment poor; both labor and management lack experience. The main tasks ahead, as pointed out by Vice-Chairman Teng Tze-hui (56), are to strengthen the security and safety systems of the mines and plants, to raise production and reduce production costs. Hereafter, under the guidance of the People's government, all the people and workers should earnestly strive to accomplish the tasks assigned them to prepare a sound foundation for industrialization in China.

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## Bibliographic Notes

The material in this article is based largely on information given in the Hankow Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 6 April 1950. The Ta-kang Pao (Hankow) and Hsin Hunan Jih-pao (Ch'ang-sha) have also been consulted. The statistics on coal reserves are based on the book Shih-nien-lai Chung-kuo Chih Ching-chi, published by the Chung-hua Publishing Company in Shanghai.

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